

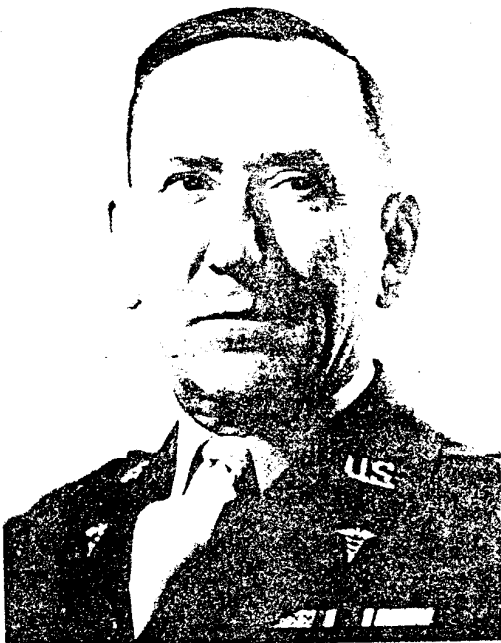
OUR ARMY HOSPITALS



The 121st General Hospital at Bremerhaven, Germany, being located at the only port servicing United States Occupation Forces, assumes an unusual and interesting role. It occupies one of the finest hospital plants in Germany, completed in 1939 as a German Marine hospital. The buildings are of brick and concrete fire-proof construction, modern and beautifully finished. Necessary additions have been completed, including a neuropsychiatric section, a mess for patients, Red Cross facilities, a theater and a chapel, all of which facilitate the hospital's long term mission.

The 121st continues to process an average of 600 patients each month for movement by hospital ship to the Zone of the Interior. Most of these patients were transferred by hospital train to the 121st from "boarding hospitals" throughout the occupied area. These cases represent a wide variety of interesting disease entities, offering invaluable material for observation and study--an opportunity which is exploited through frequent clinical conferences. Patients continue to receive definitive treatment while awaiting embarkation, to permit their going aboard the hospital ship in the best possible condition for withstanding a ten-day or twelve-day voyage. Patients requiring immediate definitive care which is beyond the scope of occupation force hospitals, as well as these who are too ill to withstand the long boat trip, are evacuated to the United States by air, via Bremen, Germany, and Paris, France.

In addition to its role as a holding hospital, the 121st General maintains an active pediatric service, children being admitted directly here from ships bringing dependents from the States. A fully equipped children's ward has been established and trained personnel provided for the care of these patients. The proximity



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Commanding Officer

of the troop staging and redeployment center, both male and female, as well as occupation units and personnel of the Navy and the Merchant Marine provides this hospital with an active and varied patient census.

The 121st General Hospital was activated 10 March 1944 at Camp Ellis, Illinois, and departed for overseas 22 July of the same year. The unit became operational as the 4111th U.S. Army Hospital Plant under the 802nd Hospital Center on 2 September 1944, at Lufton Camp, Yeovil, Somerset, England, a former British infantry post. The hospital was closed on 4 May 1945, after eight months of successful operation at this site, and moved to

Lesum Barracks, Bremen, Germany, by way of Southampton, Le Havre and the Maginot-Niel Medical Staging Camp, France, arriving 26 July 1945. Construction necessary for conversion of the Lesum Barracks, a former German Ordnance Post, to a General Hospital plant was initiated on 20 June 1945, according to plans prepared by the Surgeon's and Engineer's Offices, Bremen Port Command.

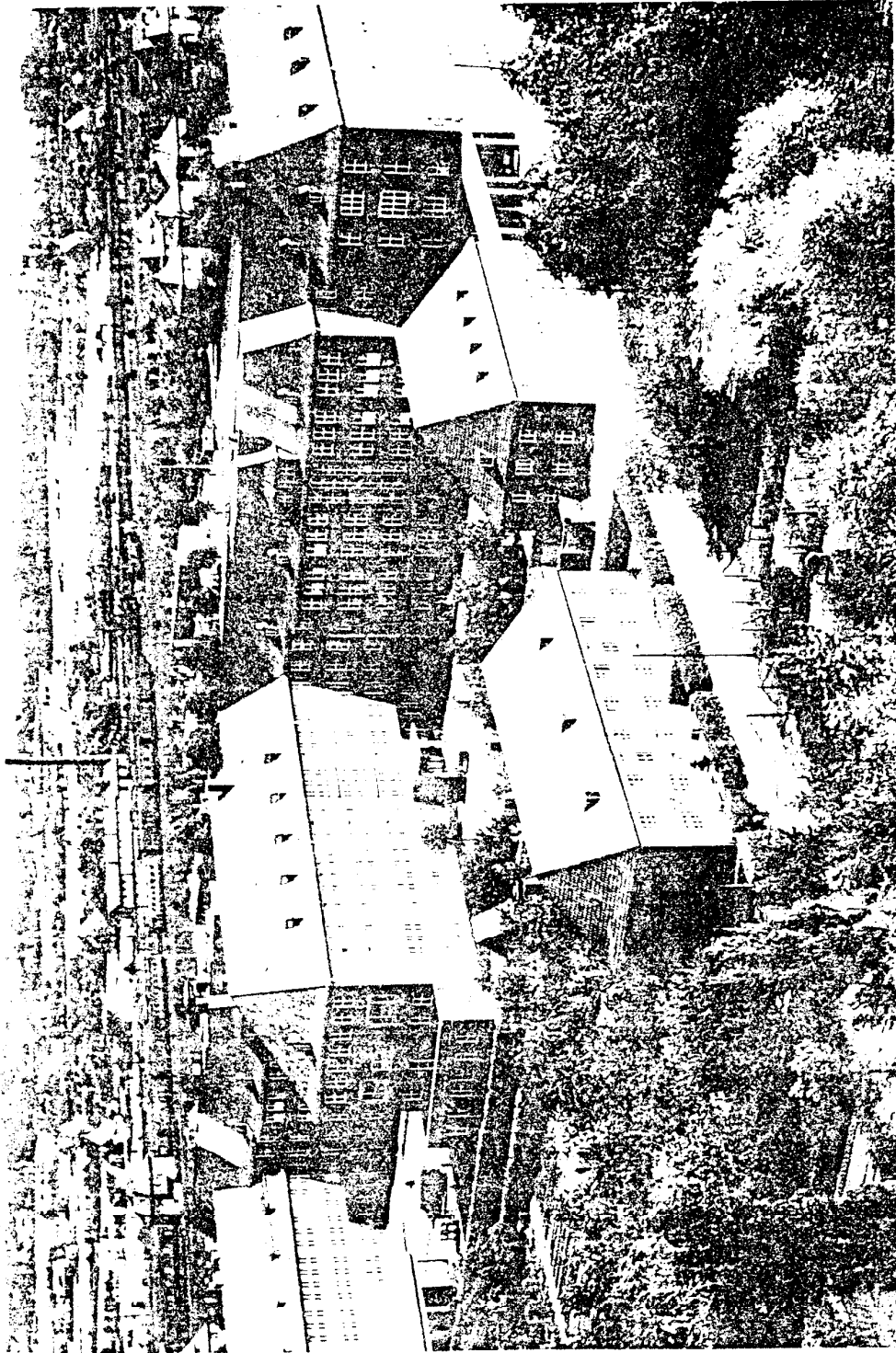
On 3 December 1945, the unit moved to St Joseph's Hospital, Bremen, Germany, relieving the 115th Evacuation Hospital, which formerly occupied this site, and began operations as the 4458th U.S. Army Hospital Plant, rendering definitive medical care to the troops in the Bremen Area. A small number of officers and enlisted men remained at Lesum Barracks to supervise construction of the future home of the unit. In January 1946, upon deactivation of the 348th Station Hospital, the 121st General Hospital assumed operation of the 4457th U.S. Army Hospital Plant located in the former Marine Lazarett, Bremerhaven, Germany. The new unit, designated Detach-

ment "A", 121st General Hospital, served as a holding hospital for all patients being returned to the Zone of the Interior from the Theater, as well as caring for troops stationed in the Bremerhaven area.

The 121st General Hospital moved from St. Joseph's Hospital, Bremen, Germany, to the Lesum plant on 25 April 1946 and Headquarters moved to Detachment "A" in Bremerhaven. A redesignation of the units was effected, the Lesum plant becoming Detachment "A", 121st General Hospital. The change was instituted because the greater patient and administrative load rested with the Bremerhaven plant. Since then, the two units of the 121st General Hospital have continued a mission that is among the most important of the tasks entrusted to the medical service in the European Theater.



Aerial View of Detachment "A" at Lesum



Aerial View of 121st General Hospital at Bremerhaven